

REMARKS

The present application was filed on May 31, 2001 with claims 1-35. Claims 1-36 remain pending and claims 1, 17, 33, 34 and 36 are the pending independent claims. Independent claims 1, 17, 33, 34 and 36 have been amended.

In the outstanding Office Action dated May 3, 2006, the Examiner: (i) rejected claims 1, 2, 5-8, 17, 18, 21-24 and 33-36 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,256,773 to Bowman-Amuah (hereinafter "Bowman") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,295,531 to Bae (hereinafter "Bae"); and (ii) rejected claims 3, 4, 9-16, 19, 20 and 25-32 as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Bowman in view of Bae and U.S. Patent No. 6,226,792 to Goiffon (hereinafter "Goiffon").

With regard to the rejection of claims 1, 2, 5-8, 17, 18, 21-24 and 33-36 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bowman in view of Bae, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 17, 33, 34 and 36. Applicant respectfully asserts that the cited combination fails to establish a prima facie case of obviousness under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as specified in M.P.E.P. §2143, in that the cited combination fails to teach or suggest all of the claim limitations of the amended independent claims. For at least this reason, a prima facie case of obviousness has not been established.

Independent claim 1 recites a method of configuring software. In this method a common software configuration markup language is utilized in one or more integrated computer systems of a digital communication network. The one or more integrated computer systems include at least one server which is connected to a plurality of client computers, the server having a memory for storing product elements which may be linked together to form at least one version of a software package. The server is further capable of storing processes usable by the clients to at least one of maintain the product elements and develop new product elements, and tools usable by the clients to at least one of define, maintain and update relations between the product elements. This common software configuration markup language is usable by a cooperating team on the plurality of client computers to define a project, perform a memory access to at least one of product elements and packages, map one or more of the processes and tools to one or more library systems, and define relations between

the product elements, allowing for platform independent editing of product elements at individual client computers in at least one language independent of the common software configuration markup language to form different versions of a software package. Support for the amendment can be found on page 7, lines 23-28, page 11, lines 1-4 and lines 16-21 of the Specification. Independent claims 17, 33, 34 and 36 recite similar limitations.

Bowman discloses a system for configuration management in a development architecture framework as components in the framework change. Bowman discusses packaging of system software, especially in the context of change control, but fails to disclose that the system is capable of integrating multiple computer systems via a digital communications network.

A feature of the independent claims which Bowman fails to disclose is the ability to integrate multiple computer systems via a digital communication network, thus allowing users located at very far distances from each other to all seamlessly use the system and methods described in the present invention. Bowman also fails to disclose platform independent editing of product elements at individual client computers in at least one language independent of the common software configuration markup language to form different versions of a software package.

Bae discloses a method utilizing an internet terminal coupled to the World Wide Web to write a script in the command language of a database management system based on an HTML input.

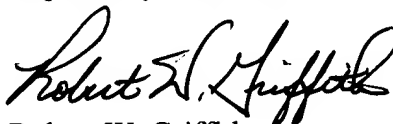
Bae, however, fails to remedy the deficiencies described above in regard to Bowman. Specifically, Bae at least fails to disclose platform independent editing of product elements at individual client computers in at least one language independent of the common software configuration markup language to form different versions of a software package. Bae specifically describes being able to translate only an HTML input into a command language script. This is not platform independent editing. The present invention is structured to allow editing of product elements at individual client computers, regardless of platform. Thus, the combination of Bowman and Bae at least fails to disclose platform independent editing of product elements at individual client computers in at least one language independent of the common software configuration markup language to form different versions of a software package.

Dependent claims 2, 5-8, 18, 21-24 and 35 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency from amended independent claims 1 and 17, and also recite patentable subject matter in their own right. Accordingly, withdrawal of the §103(a) rejection of claims 1, 2, 5-8, 17, 18, 21-24, and 33-36 is respectfully requested.

With regard to the rejection of claims 3, 4, 9-16, 19, 20 and 25-32 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bowman in view of Bae and Goiffon, Applicant respectfully asserts that the cited combination fails to teach or suggest all of the claim limitations. Goiffon discloses an object management system for managing, cataloging, and discovering various potentially reusable code and data components that exist within a platform. However, Goiffon fails to remedy the deficiencies described above in regard to the independent claims. Thus, dependent claims 3, 4, 9-16, 20 and 25-32 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency from amended independent claims 1 and 17, and also recite patentable subject matter in their own right. Accordingly, withdrawal of the §103(a) rejection of claims 3, 4, 9-16, 19, 20 and 25-32 is respectfully requested.

In view of the above Applicant believes that claims 1-36 are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request withdrawal of the §103(a) rejections.

Respectfully submitted,



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